



Firm-as-a-Rock,  
Soft-as-Silk and Sweet-as-Honey



# Firm-as-a-Rock, Soft-as-Silk, and Sweet-as-Honey

Bulgarian Folk Story

Illustrations: Gencho Denchev

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Once upon a time,  
there lived an old woman  
in a hut at the edge of the  
forest.



A woman with short, light brown hair is walking through a forest. She is wearing a blue coat with a fur-trimmed hood, a red and orange checkered skirt, and a green apron. She is carrying a large green basket on her back. She is looking back over her shoulder with a worried expression. The background shows a path through a forest with green grass and trees.

One day, she went to  
gather mushrooms, and  
gradually walked deeper  
and deeper into the forest.

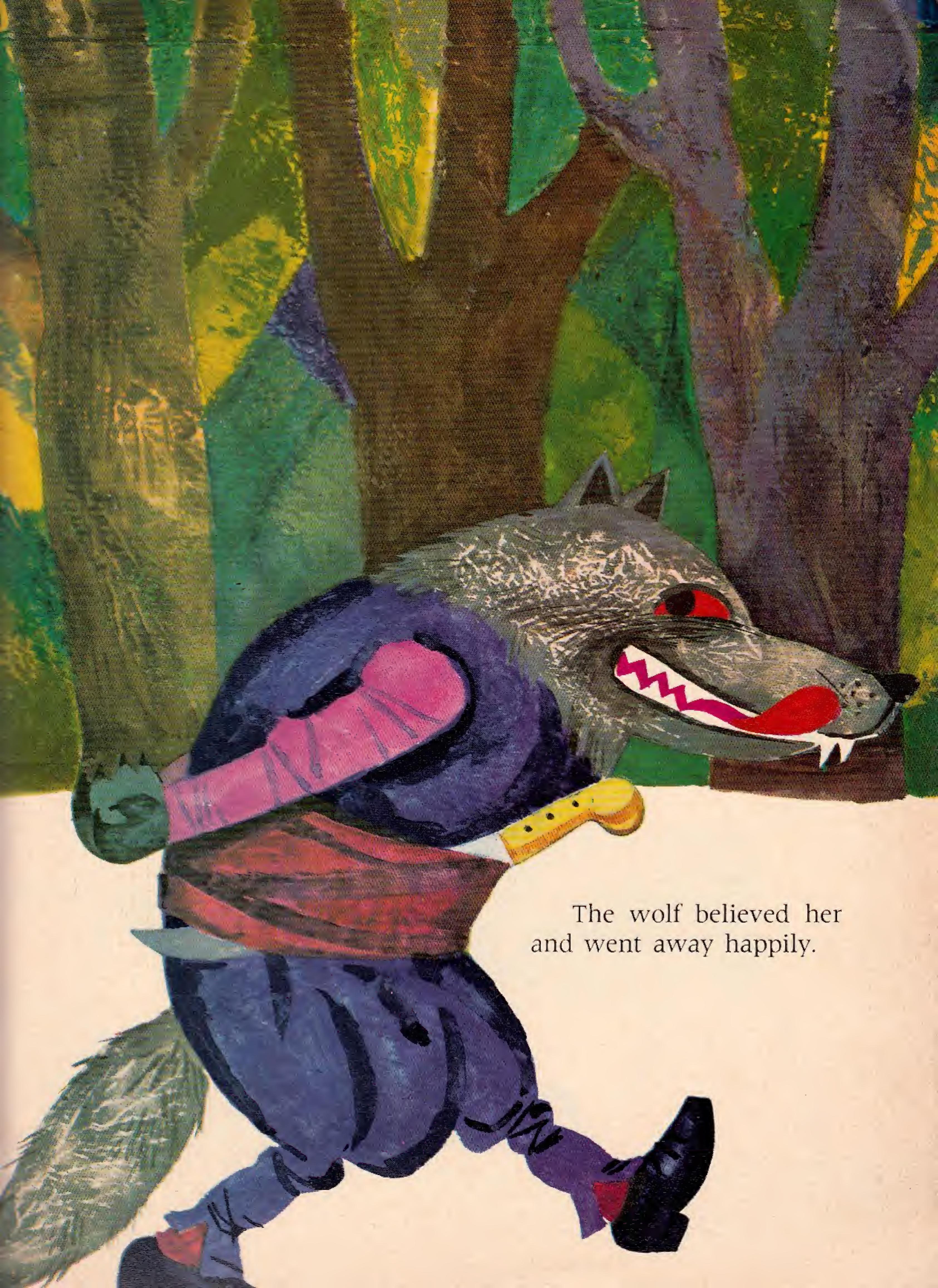


Suddenly, a big, bad wolf blocked her way and said to her: 'I'll eat you!'



The old woman was very frightened and replied: 'What will you get if you eat me? I am old and skinny. But I have three daughters: Firm-as-a-Rock, Soft-as-Silk and Sweet-as-Honey. Come to my place tonight and I will let you have one of them.'



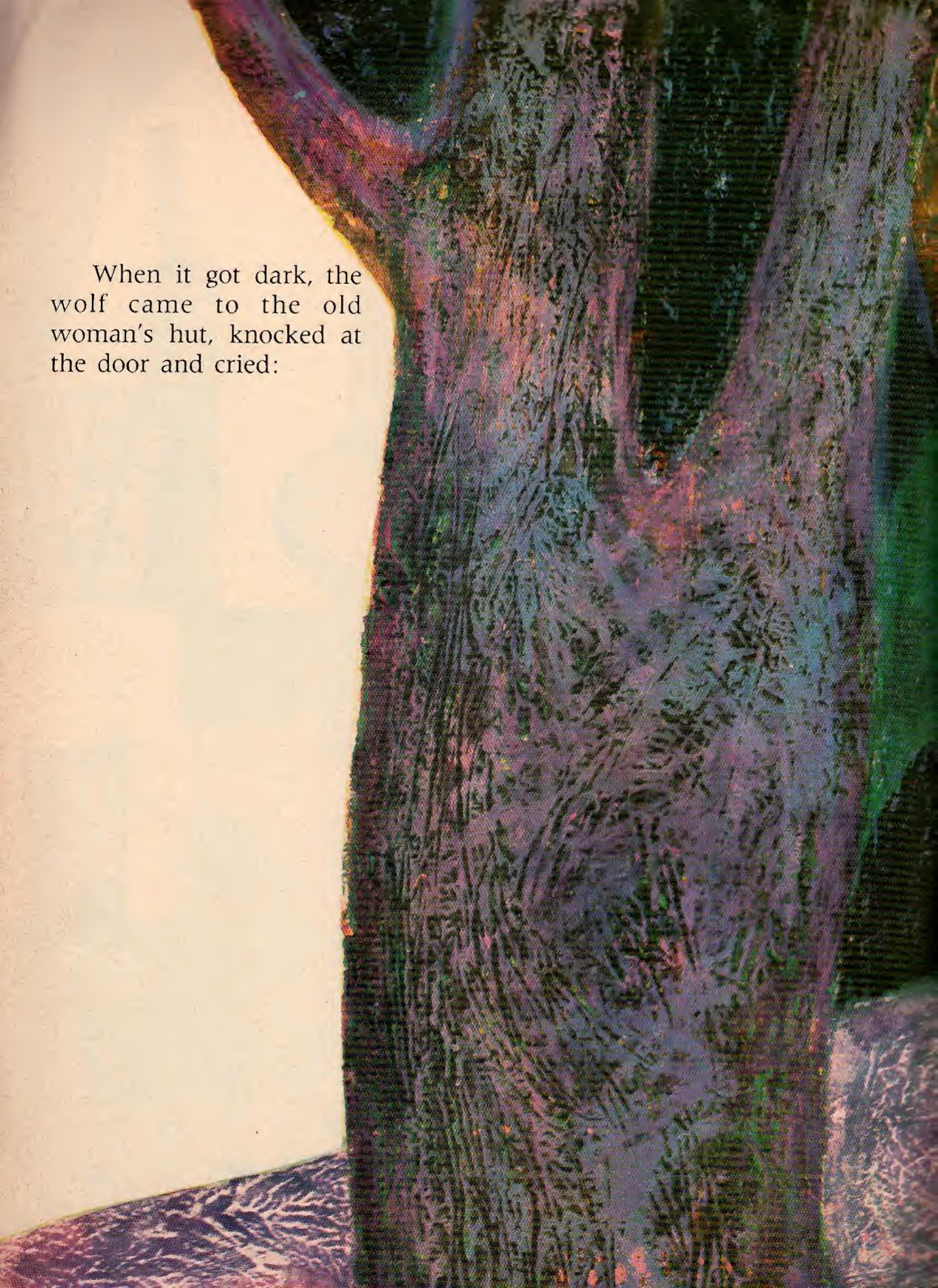


The wolf believed her  
and went away happily.

The old woman hurried back home. Early in the evening, she locked her goat in its pen, and took the cat and cock with her in the hut.







When it got dark, the  
wolf came to the old  
woman's hut, knocked at  
the door and cried:





'Grandma, give me  
your daughter Firm-as-  
a-Rock!'

The old woman re-  
plied:

'Grandma has bolted  
and barred the door firm as  
a rock!'



'Let me have Soft-as-Silk!'

'Grandma has made her bed soft as silk.'





The big bad wolf growled angrily:

'Let me have Sweet-as-Honey then!'

And the old woman answered:

'Grandma's dreams will be sweet as honey.'





That is how old Grandma outwitted the wolf and saved her life; and the wolf went away into the forest snarling angrily.

**FIRM-AS-A-ROCK, SOFT-AS-SILK, SWEET-AS-HONEY**  
**Bulgarian Folk Story**

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